

200312535-1

10/697,618

REMARKS

This is a full and timely response to the non-final Official Action mailed August 30, 2006 which imposed a Restriction Requirement in the present application. Accordingly, Applicant makes the following election and requests that examination of the elected claims on their merits be promptly conducted in light of the following remarks.

In the outstanding Office Action, the Office alleges that the present application contains claims drawn to four independent and patentably distinct inventions. The claims are grouped as follows:

Claim Group 1: Claims 1-37;
Claim Group 2: Claims 38-60;
Claim Group 3: Claims 61-64; and
Claim Group 4: Claims 65 and 66

Applicant wishes to note several corrections that have been made in the claims. The claims as originally filed failed to include a claim number 4. Consequently, the claims have been renumbered accordingly herein and now total 66, rather than 67. The Claim Group listings above have been adjusted to account for the renumbering.

Additionally, claims 59 and 60 (originally 60 and 61) should have been dependent on claim 38. Consequently, these claims are listed with Claim Group 2, rather than Claim Group 1.

With these corrections, Applicant hereby elects Claim Group 1, claims 1-37 for immediate examination. All other original claims are labeled as "withdrawn" herein.

Applicant does not disclaim the subject matter of any withdrawn claim and reserves the right to file any number of continuation or divisional applications to the withdrawn claims or to any other subject matter described in the present application.


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An examination of claims 1-37 on their merits is now respectfully requested. If the Examiner has any comments or suggestions which could place this application in even better form, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned attorney at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

DATE: September 30, 2006

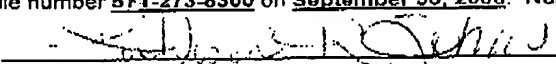

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CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office facsimile number 571-273-8300 on September 30, 2006. Number of Pages: 16


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